

25 August 1955

TO : Chief, Intelligence Information Staff.

THRU : Chief, D/S.  
Chief, S/COM.

SUBJECT : Requirements Covering Gaps in Intelligence Information of Post and Telecommunications of North Korea.

REFERENCE: (a) CIA/RR Project 10.405, "The Economy of North Korea," S/COM Contribution on Communications, 24 August 1955.  
(b) CIA/RR, Economic Research Area, Analysts' Manual Notice, 4 May 1955, Finishing Procedures, subj: Transmittal of Gaps in Intelligence Information as Collection Requirements at the Termination of Each Branch Project.

BACKGROUND

(Secret)

Reference (a) states the gaps which exist in the communications of North Korea and also provides the necessary background on communications in North Korea.

REQUIREMENTS

Ministry of Communications.

A. General.

1. What is the organizational structure of the Ministry of Communications. It is known that the Ministry is divided into five Bureaus but little is known beyond that. (Confidential)
  - a. What is the organizational structure of the five Bureaus? What lower bureaus are subordinate to the chief bureau and what departments are subordinate to the lower Bureaus?
  - b. Does the Ministry of Communications control all communications facilities in North Korea? If not, what other Ministries maintain and control their own communications facilities?
  - c. How many employees work for the Ministry of Communications? by Bureaus? by Departments? What are the wage scales? What percentage are male? female? skilled? unskilled? semi-skilled?
2. What was annual investment 1950-1955? by postal, telephone, telegraph, etc.?
3. What are plans for future development? by postal, telephone, telegraph, etc.?

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B. Postal.

1. Locate the postal routes in North Korea by air and ground. What is their total mileage? by air? by ground?
2. What is the total geographical area of coverage? What percentage of the population is being served by postal routes?
3. How well does it serve the population? What is the speed of service between cities? Prices for types of mail?
4. How many letters, parcels, newspapers, periodicals are transmitted annually? monthly? daily? From all North Korea or from any segment thereof.
5. How many post offices? How are these post offices classified? i.e., central, sub, rural? What determines their classification?

C. Telephone.

1. How many telephones in North Korea? Where were they made? China? USSR? Czechoslovakia? Other?
2. Do the telephones have restricted public use? If so, why?
3. How many phone calls are made each year? How many between 1950-1955?
4. What are the prices for telephone calls: locally? long distance?
5. What is the total length of telephone lines? of wire? How much of this is underground?overhead?

D. Telegraph.

1. Location and number of telegraph offices? in 1950-1955? Total number of telegrams (domestic and foreign) during same period?
2. What is the rate for telegrams? The average number of words per telegram? Speed of service?
3. Is the telephone and telegraph service utilized by other economic ministries which have their own communications, i.e., railroad, air, water, etc.?

E. Submarine Cable.

What is the operating condition and capacity of the submarine cable links? Who operates, maintains, and controls these links?

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F. Early Warning System.

What is the total number and location of early warning radar sites? What media of communications do these radar sites use? Radio? Wireline? What is the organization of the air defense system? How efficient is this system?

G. Radiobroadcasting.

What is the present number of independent radio receivers? Loudspeakers? What are the prices? prices for installation of loudspeaker? Are there listening fees? how much for various types of listening fees? Are there more than 9 radiobroadcasting transmitting stations? If so, state name and location.

H. Meteorological System.

It is believed there are 13 radio stations in the meteorological system. Do these meteorological radio stations have their own communications system? State number of stations and type of communications system: wire? radio?

I. Aeronautical Radio System.

What are the communications facilities of the aeronautical system? wire? radio? type of radio facilities? is system owned and operated by the aeronautical system? if not, who owns and operates the system?

J. Maritime and Railroad system.

How many maritime and railroad radio stations exist in North Korea? State locations. Who owns and operates these systems?

GRK/S/CCM

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